

Appl. No. 10/659,543
Amdt. Dated Jun. 18, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Mar. 18, 2004

REMARKS

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ishida et al.

In regard to amended claim 1, an electronic card connector defined therein is adapted for being mounted onto a printed circuit board, and comprises a terminal module and a card ejection mechanism being located at a side of the terminal module. The terminal module comprises a dielectric housing and a plurality of terminals retained in the dielectric housing. Each terminal comprises a contact portion adapted for electrically connecting with an electronic card and a mounting portion adapted for electrically connecting with the printed circuit board. The card ejection mechanism comprises a push rod and a button. The push rod comprises one of a receiving space and a locking portion and the button comprises another of the receiving space and the locking portion. The locking portion comprises a resilient portion and a pair of opposite hooks laterally extending from a distal of the resilient portion. The resilient portion defines a slit between the hooks. The receiving space comprises a cavity and a recess communicating with the cavity. **The hooks pass through the cavity with the resilient portion deflected toward the slit and snap back into the recess for establishing a securing connection between the button and the push rod.**

Referring to of Ishida et al, a rotatable press button 57 is provided at the pressed section 55 of an ejector bar with a pin 56 in FIG. 8(A). The pressed section 55 and the press button 57 are provided with lock apertures 55A and 55B and lock projections 57A and 57B, respectively.

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When the pressed section 55 is rotated in the parallel and right-angle positions of the press button 57 in FIGS. 8(A) and 8(B), the wall where the lock apertures 55A and 55B is defined will deflect outwardly for the insertion of the protrusion where lock projections 57A and 57B is formed with and then lock apertures 55A and 55B engage with lock projections 57A and 57B securely.

However, claim 1 specifically point out that **the pair of hooks** pass through the cavity with **the resilient portion deflected toward the slit and snap back into the recess** for establishing a securing connection between the button and the push rod disclosed in claim 1. Apparently, the connection between the press section 55 and the press button 57 disclosed in the Ishida et al is different from the connection between the push rod and the button defined in claim 1.

Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Ishida et al.

Claims 1, 2, 7-10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yu.

Referring to FIGS. 2 and 6A of Yu, a push bar 12 disclosed therein comprises a pusher 122, a button 121 assembled on a rear end of the pusher 122 and a peg 123 for connecting the locker 121 and the pusher 122 together. The pusher 122 comprises a bulge 1221 with a pair of projections 1222 extending rearwardly from a rear end thereof. The bulge 1221 defines an elongate through hole 1223 proximate the rear end thereof for receiving the peg 123. The button 121 comprises a pair of parallel walls 1212 extending forwardly from a front end thereof which defines a channel 1213 for receiving the bulge 1221. Both the walls 1212 define a through hole 1215 in vertical alignment with the elongate hole 1223 for receiving the peg 123. The button defines a pair of concavities 1214 on a bottom wall of the

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channel 1213 for receiving the projections 1222.

Apparently, Yu disclose the button 121 is assembled on a rear end of the pusher 122 by a peg 123, BUT NOT by means that **the hooks pass through the cavity with the resilient portion deflected toward the slit and snap back into the recess disclosed in claim 1.**

Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Yu.

Dependent claims 2, 7-9 should not be anticipated by Yu since they depend from independent claim 1.

In regard to Claim 10, a method of providing a same electronic card connector in different computer enclosures disclosed therein comprises steps of:

providing a terminal module comprising a dielectric housing and a plurality of terminals retained in the dielectric housing, each terminal comprising a contact portion adapted for electrically connecting with an electronic card and a mounting portion adapted for electrically connecting to a corresponding printed circuit board; a card ejection mechanism being located at a side of the terminal module and comprising a push rod and a button discrete from each other, the push rod comprising a first connection structure and the button comprising a second connection structure interengaged with each other; wherein

there are a plurality of different buttons for use with said push rod, which have different outer contours while with the same connection structure thereof so as to comply with the different enclosures.

Referring to Yu, it discloses **only one** button 121 for use with the pusher 122, BUT NOT **a plurality of buttons** for use with said push rod. **which have different**

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outer contours while with the same connection structure thereof. Therefore, claim 10 is not anticipated by Yu.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hara in view of Ishida et al.

Referring to FIG. 3 of Hara, an electronic card connector 1 defined therein is adapted for being mounted onto a printed circuit board, and comprises a terminal module 2 and a card ejection mechanism 3 being located at a side of the terminal module. The terminal module 2 comprises a dielectric housing 20 and a plurality of terminals 21 retained in the dielectric housing. Each terminal comprises a contact portion adapted for electrically connecting with an electronic card and a mounting portion adapted for electrically connecting with the printed circuit board. The card ejection mechanism 3 comprises a push rod 312 and a button 311 retained in the push rod. However, Hara does not disclose how to retaining the button 311 in the push rod 312.

Referring to of Ishida et al, a rotatable press button 57 is provided at the pressed section 55 of an ejector bar with a pin 56 in FIG. 8(A). The pressed section 55 and the press button 57 are provided with lock apertures 55A and 55B and lock projections 57A and 57B, respectively. When the pressed section 55 is rotated in the parallel and right-angle positions of the press button in FIGS. 8(A) and 8(B), the wall where the lock apertures 55A and 55B is defined will deflect outwardly for the insertion of the protrusion where lock projections 57A and 57B is formed with and then lock apertures 55A and 55B engage with lock projections 57A and 57B securely.

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When the pressed section 55 is rotated in the parallel and right-angle positions of the press button 57 in FIGS. 8(A) and 8(B), the wall where the lock apertures 55A and 55B is defined will deflect outwardly for the insertion of the protrusion where lock projections 57A and 57B is formed with and then lock apertures 55A and 55B engage with lock projections 57A and 57B securely. Incorrect operation of operator might easily result in the wall destroyed because of overdeflecting outwardly.

However, claim 1 specifically point out that **the pair of hooks** pass through the cavity **with the resilient portion deflected toward the slit and snap back into the recess** for establishing a securing connection between the button and the push rod disclosed in claim 1. Furthermore, the configuration that **the resilient portion defines a slit between the hooks** defined in claim 1 not only increases the resiliency of the resilient portion but also prevent the resilient portion from overdeflecting inwardly. Therefore, the connection between the press section 55 and the press button 57 disclosed in the Ishida et al is different from the connection between the push rod and the button defined in claim 1.

As described above, neither Hara nor Ishida et al fail to disclose the connection defined in claim 1. Claim 1 thus is not obvious over Hara in view of Ishida et al.

Dependent claims 2, 7-9 should are not obvious over Hara in view of Ishida et al. since they depend from independent claim 1.

Examiner alleged that claim 10 is rejected as being unpatentable over Hara in view of Ishida et al. However, Ishida et al. disclose different pressed sections (3) and different press buttons (4) to cooperate with each other in different embodiments for use with the same computer enclosure. It does NOT disclose

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one common push rod (41) to cooperate with different buttons (42) for use with different computer enclosures. Accordingly, the combination of Hara and Ishida et al. can not render obvious the instant invention as defined in claim 10.

In view of the above claim amendments and remarks, the subject application is believed to be in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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